authorities to apprehend and hand them over they could be brought to justice for the crimes committed in India. On 11th February 2002, India reiterated this demand, and also pointed out to Pakistan that the authorities of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), acting as per current international norms, deported to India two individuals responsible for the attack on the American Cultural Center in Kolkatta. The UAE authorities had not insisted upon time-consuming procedures of extradition, which which was very much in keeping with the requirements of the international campaign against terrorism.

Government have indicated to Pakistan that of the 20 fugitives from law that figure on the list handed over to Pakistan on 31st December 2001, 15 individuals have Interpol Red Corner notices issued them. This provides sufficient basis for Pakistan to take action. It is well known that according to Interpol norms, resolutions, decisions and procedures red notices are documents intended for both the police and the judicial authorities and can be considered valid requests for provisionl arrest, because they are only issued on the basis of valid national warrants. Pakistan can also take action under a bilateral cooperative arrangement, which had been arrived at in 1989 by the Director-CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) in India and Pakistan's Director General-FIA (Federal Investigation Agency). Under this arrangement both agencies act as nodal agencies in their respective countries, to locate and trace out fugitives from law, and to arrange handing over of such wanted and absconding criminals to their respective counterpart without going through cumbersome and time-consuming procedures.

Government are firmly resolved to continue taking all measures necessary to defeat Pakistan's sponsorship of cross border terrorism in India. This includes, appropriately and effectively, highlighting to the international community is pertaining to Pakistan's continued sponsorship of cross border terrorism. India has received widespread support for its strong determination to resist terrorism unit it is decisively crushed. The consensus in the internatonal community is that there is no justification for terrorism, which must be eradicated wherever it exists.

Cut on Central Financial Assistance

*116. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to cut 15% Central Financial Assistance to the States; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Discotinuation of STD/ISD Services in Jammu and Kashmir

†*117. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:
Dr. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether STD/ISD services have been banned in Jammu and Kashmir as a result of which the Army Jawans and other security forces posted at the border are not able to talk to their families on phone;

(b) whether due to closure of telephone booths unemployment has also increased.

(c) if so, whether Government would reinstate STD/ISD services in the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISETR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) The STD and ISD services were withdrawn on security considerations from all private public call offices in 8 districts of Jammu & Kashmir State, namely, Kupwara, Baramulla, Pulwama, Anantnag, Rajouri, Poonch, Kathua and Doda with effect from 28.12.2001 and 4 more district, namely, Badgam, Srinagar, Udhampur and Jammu with effect from 1.1.2002. However, STD/ISD services on PCOs in army cantonment, security forces or camps in J & K state have not been debarred.

(b) Even though the STD/ISD facility has been withdrawn, the local and 95 dialing facility is available to all such franchised PCO operators and they can dial most of the places in the State. The minimum guarantee for these PCOs has accordingly been reduced to be in line with Local PCOs.

(c) and (d): Government is keeping a watch on the situation and shall take a appropriate action in due course of time.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.